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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the below date:
Date: August 21, 2009 Name: Tadashi Horie, Reg. No. 40,437 Signature: Tadashi H.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Satoru ADACHI et al.

Appln. No.: 12/191,563

Filed: August 14, 2008

For: IMAGE ENCODING METHOD,
IMAGE DECODING METHOD,
IMAGE ENCODING APPARATUS,
IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS,
IMAGE ENCODING PROGRAM, AND
IMAGE DECODING PROGRAM

Attorney Docket No: 9683/293

Examiner: Patel, Jayesh A.

Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 1071

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed May 26, 2009, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following Amendments and the Remarks.

An Amendment to the specification begins on page 2 of this communication.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this communication.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this communication.